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L. Nelson
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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Mark T. Girard et al.
Serial No.: 10/073,600
Filed: February 11, 2002
For: HEAD GIMBAL ASSEMBLY
METHOD

Group Art Unit: 3729

Docket No.: AKI0004/US/2

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Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700
I CERTIFY THAT ON THURSDAY, JUNE 13, 2002, THIS PAPER IS
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Barbara A. Avery
BARBARA A. AVERY

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure imposed by 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97, 1.98 and the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure 609, Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the following information. The Examiner's independent and thorough review of this information is solicited.

Attached hereto please find Form PTO-1449 listing the cited references. Copies of the cited references are also enclosed. The Examiner is requested to indicate consideration of each reference by initialing in the appropriate box for each reference, and returning an initialed copy with the next Official Action.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 to bring to the Examiner's attention those references which may be material to the Examiner for examination of this case. However, the citation of the above references in this Information Disclosure Statement is not intended to constitute an admission that any patent or other reference referred to herein is "prior art" for this invention. In this regard, Applicants expressly reserve the right to contest that any of the references constitute "prior art."

No fee is believed to be necessary for the consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed before the receipt of an Office Action on the merits. In case the papers cross in the mail, it is requested that consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement

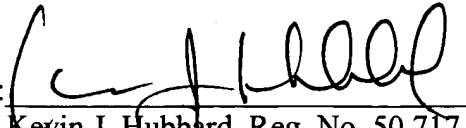
June 13, 2002
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be given under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 (c)(2). If any fee is required, please charge our Deposit Account No. 50-1775 and notify us of the same.

Dated: June 13, 2002

Respectfully Submitted,

By:


Kevin J. Hubbard, Reg. No. 50,717



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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Phone: 651-275-9813

Facsimile: 651-351-2954

KJH/3258